



## State of South Carolina Office of the Lieutenant Governor

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### **Lt. Governor Awards Grant to Alzheimer's Family Services**

(COLUMBIA) – Lieutenant Governor Andre Bauer has awarded Alzheimer's Family Services of Greater Beaufort a grant of \$5,000 to expand the availability of services for persons with Alzheimer's disease and their family caregivers in Beaufort County.

"President Reagan's long journey with Alzheimer's disease has increased awareness of this debilitating disease which affects approximately 45,000 South Carolinians," said Bauer in making the announcement. "It is important that South Carolinians have access to programs and services to cope with it. Caring for a family member with this disease can put a lot of stress on the caregiver."

Funds from the Alzheimer's Resource Coordination Center in the Lieutenant Governor's Office will be used to expand the availability of care for individuals with Alzheimer's disease or a related disorder in the person's home so family caregivers can get some relief from the full-time responsibilities of being a caregiver. Services will be available seven days a week for up to four hours a day. Alzheimer's Family Services provides a range of services including in-home respite, group respite, a visiting home educator, and a group for early stage newly diagnosed patients and their caregivers. The Alzheimer's Family Services celebrated 16 years of service to the community in June.

The Alzheimer's Resource Coordination Center was created by act of the State Legislature in 1994 and was signed into law by Governor Campbell. The Center provides grants to local communities for the development of respite services and educational programs for caregivers of persons with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias. The state Office on Aging, which houses the Center, transfers officially to the Office of the Lieutenant Governor effective July 1. Lieutenant Governor Andre Bauer says "I look forward to serving the seniors of South Carolina and advocating for seniors and their caregivers."

For more information about this respite care program, call Barbara Hunt at 843-521-9190.

